

USE OF HORSES AND CARRIAGES, ETC., IN THE WAR
DEPARTMENT.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF WAR,

SUBMITTING

A REPLY TO THE INQUIRY OF THE HOUSE RELATIVE TO THE
USE OF HORSES AND CARRIAGES IN THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

JANUARY 29, 1904.—Referred to the Committee on Expenditures in the War Department and ordered to be printed.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, January 29, 1904.

SIR: In response to House resolution, Fifty-eighth Congress, second session, dated January 12, 1904, as follows:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, requested to furnish this House, at his earliest convenience, a statement showing the number of horses, carriages, and automobiles maintained at Government expense for the officials of his Department, together with a statement showing the cost of said horses, carriages, automobiles, and harness, and the amount of wages paid to men acting as coachmen, footmen, and chauffeurs, whether carried on the rolls as such or in some other classification; also the list of officials entitled to the use of said carriages,

I have the honor to inform you that one carriage is used by the Secretary of War—a closed carriage during winter, cost \$600, bought in 1883, and an open carriage during summer, cost \$693, bought in 1897.

One carriage is used by the Assistant Secretary of War—a closed carriage during winter, cost \$700, bought in 1890, and an open carriage during summer, cost \$262.20, bought in 1903 to replace one worn out and to be sold at next public sale to be held by the Department.

One closed carriage, bought in 1880 at a cost of \$400, is kept for general use, and is used by the chief clerk, by the disbursing clerk in procuring money from the Treasury Department, and in making payments to employees in buildings outside of the War Department, and occasionally by different officials to go to other Executive Departments, the Capitol, Government Printing Office, etc.

There is one double harness, cost \$450, bought in 1891, and one double harness, cost \$350, bought in 1893; one single harness, cost \$90, bought in 1894, and one single harness, cost \$110, bought in 1894; one single harness, cost \$75, bought in 1890, and one single harness, cost \$80, bought in 1892.

Two horses were bought in 1894 and 1897, at \$300 and \$200, respectively. They are 14 and 12 years old and partially unserviceable, and at the proper time will be submitted to inspection with a view to condemnation and sale.

Two horses were bought in 1900 and 1901, and cost \$225 and \$300.

One horse was bought in 1903, and cost \$300.

One horse was bought in 1897, and cost \$300.

Three drivers are required for the above and are selected from the employees who care for the horses, wagons, and harness used in the mail and heavy messenger service of the Department. Their salaries are \$840, \$720, and \$660 per annum, respectively.

Very respectfully,

ELIHU ROOT, *Secretary of War.*

THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

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